

Message Text

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ACTION ACDA-10

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E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PARM, NATO

SUBJ: MBFR: DATA STUDIES

REF: USNATO 146

1. DATA SUBGROUP CHAIRMAN (BRANSON) AND MBFR STAFF GROUP HAVE CIRCULATED FOLLOWING DOCUMENTS, SOME OF WHICH MISSION CITED IN REFTEL. ACTING WG CHAIRMAN (SMITH) BELIEVES WG NEED MERELY TAKE NOTE OF THESE DOCUMENTS. THEY WOULD THUS BE AVAILABLE FOR MBFR ANALYSIS BUT WOULDHAVE NO FORMAL STATUS.

A. REVISED ASSESSMENT OF MANPOWER STRENGTHS OF NATO AND WP-FORCES IN NGA, AC/276-WP(75)5. THIS IS ONE-PAGE TABLE PROVIDING GROSS NATIONAL AIR AND GROUND FORCE FIGURES, USING END 1974 FIGURES FOR NATO AND MID-1974 FOR WP (MCM-86-74). WP(75)5 UPDATES AC/276-D(74)6 OF 3 JULY 1974.

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B. SGDS CHAIRMAN'S REPORT, AC/276-WP(75)4. THESE ARE COMPARISON TABLES RELATING TO NATO AND WP GROUND AND AIR FORCES IN THE NGA. THEY UPDATE AC/276-D(74)5 OF 27 MAY 1974.

C. MAJOR GROUND AND AIR FORCE NATO AND WP COMBAT UNITS

AVAILABLE FOR OPERATIONS IN CENTRAL REGION, AC/276-WP(75)3 (REVISED) DATED 4 FEBRUARY 1975. STAFF GROUP PREPARED THIS PAPER FOR UK WG REP WHO REQUESTED TABLE SHOWING AVAILABILITY OF MAJOR NATO AND PACT GROUND FORCES IN CENTRAL EUROPE OR ASSIGNED/EARMARKED FOR THIS AREA. ACTING WG CHAIRMAN BELIEVES UK REP REQUESTED PAPER FOR INTERNAL UK PURPOSES

D. AN AIDE MEMOIRE ON COLLECTION OF MBFR DATA, DATED 27 JANUARY 1975. THIS IS A REFERENCE LIST OF NATO MBFR DATA DOCUMENTS WITH AN EXPLANATION OF THEIR PURPOSE AND STATUS. REMARKS AND PURPOSE COLUMNS INCLUDE SOME INACCURACIES. SGDS CHAIRMAN PREPARED THIS DOCUMENT AT REQUEST OF CANADIAN WG REP.

2. DATA DOCUMENTS UNDER PREPARATION.

A. PUBLICATION OF OFFICIAL END 1973 VERSION OF "BLUE BOOK" AWAITS NATO AGREEMENT ON CERTAIN NSWP DATA.

B. NEW DRAFT OF AC/276(SGDS-N/30 ON NATO AIR AND GROUND FORCES COMPARABLE IN FORM AND DETAIL TO MC-86-74. SGDS CHAIRMAN AWAITS REPLIES (DUE BY MARCH 21) FROM NATIONAL AUTHORITIES ON PERSONNEL STRENGTHS INCLUDING AIR MANPOWER UP-DATED TO END 1974 (SEE REFTEL).

3. SGDS CHAIRMAN HAS ALSO CIRCULATED TO SGDS MEMBERS A NOTE DEVELOPING A SUGGESTION OF UK MABFR REP THAT THERE MIGHT BE MERIT IN OBTAINING A SET OF FIGURES GIVING EACH NATO COUNTRY'S MANNING STRENGTH AT ITS HIGHEST AND LOWEST LEVELS FOR ARMY PERSONNEL ON ACTIVE DUTY IN THE NGA IN ORDER TO OBTAIN AN AVERAGE GROUND FORCES MANPOWER STRENGTH. ACTING WG CHAIRMAN EXPECTS UK REP'S IDEA WILL REMAIN IN LIMBO. HE DOES NOT PRESENTLY PLAN TO PLACE THIS SUGGESTION ON WG AGENDA BUT MIGHT
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DEAL WITH IT IN SOME FUTURE WG PAPER ON DATA ISSUES. ALTHOUGH SGDS CHAIRMAN HAS REQUESTED THAT NATIONAL AUTHORITIES COMMENT ON SUGGESTION, MISSION SEES NO NEED FOR WASHINGTON TO PREPARE FORMAL RESPONSE AT THIS STAGE.

4. FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF RATIONALE CONTAINED IN SGDS CHAIRMAN'S NOTE:

"THE AGGREGATE GROUND FORCE STRENGTHS FOR NATO AND THE WARSAW PACT WHICH HAVE SO FAR BEEN GIVEN TO WARSAW PACT NEGOTIATORS IN VIENNA AS AUTHORIZED BY THE COUNCIL ARE: NATO - 777,000, WARSAW PACT - 925,000. BY PRESENTING THE NATO STRENGTH IN THIS WAY, NATO HAS SUGGESTED TO THE WARSAW PACT THAT THIS IS AN EXACT FIGURE WHICH DOES NOT VARY. IN TRUTH IT IS BUT AN INDICATION OF NATO'S ACTUAL STRENGTH SINCE IT IS ARRIVED AT BY THE USE OF A

BUDGETARY STRENGTH FOR THE US GROUND FORCES, A "MEAN" STRENGTH FOR FRG, NETHERLANDS AND BELGIAN GROUND FORCES AND AN ACTUAL STRENGTH AT SOME SELECTED BUT OUT OF DATE POINT IN TIME FOR THE UK GROUND FORCES.

"THERE WOULD APPEAR TO BE A CASE FOR NATO TO PRESENT, FOR NEGOTIATING PURPOSES, ITS STRENGTH IN A LESS PRECISE WAY BUT WITH THE STATED PROVISIO THAT THIS STRENGTH FIGURE FLUCTUATES IN ANY YEAR, BOTH UPWARDS AND DOWNWARDS, BY "X" THOUSANDS DUE TO REGULAR RECRUITING, CONSCRIPTION AND ROTATION FACTORS. THE FIGURE "X" WOULD BE DERIVED, FIRSTLY, BY ESTABLISHING THE PEAK AND LOWEST ANTICIPATED ACTUAL STRENGTHS OF NATO BY AGGREGATING THE TWO FIGURES; SECONDLY, BY TAKING INTO ACCOUNT THE REQUIREMENT OF STATIONED FORCES TO INTRODUCE ADDITIONAL FORCES INTO THE AREA FOR TEMPORARY PERIODS OF TRAINING OR FOR SPECIFIC EXERCISES; AND THEN, THIRDLY, DECIDING WHAT THE "AVERAGE" FIGURE SHOULD BE TO WHICH THE AGREED PLUS AND MINUS FLUCTUATIONS WOULD BE APPLIED.

"THE FIGURE USED FOR CEILING AND VERIFICATION PURPOSES, IF REQUIRED, WOULD HAVE TO BE THAT USED AS THE "AVERAGE" FIGURE PLUS THE ROTATIONAL/EXERCISE/TRAINING FIGURES.

"THE ADVANTAGES OF THIS PROPOSAL ARE THAT IT WOULD MAKE IT UNNECESSARY TO OBTAIN WARSAW PACT AGREEMENT TO ADMITTING EXTRA NATO PERSONNEL INTO THE AREA FOR TRAINING PURPOSES; IT WOULD
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PERMIT INDIVIDUAL NATIONS, E.G. FRG, FROM SEEKING SPECIAL PERMISSION TO EXCEED THEIR CURRENT "MEAN" FIGURE AND IT WOULD PROVIDE NATO COUNTRIES WITH SOME FLEXIBILITY TO INCREASE THE PERMANENT ACTUAL STRENGTH OF THEIR AGGREGATE GROUND FORCES IN THE AREA WITHOUT ABROGATING AN MBFR AGREEMENT, SHOULD THE CIRCUMSTANCES IN THE FUTURE SO REQUIRE IT.

"THE DISADVANTAGE TO NATO OF THIS PROPOSAL WOULD BE THAT IT WOULD ALLOW SIMILAR LATITUDE TO THE OTHER SIDE."
END TEXTBRUCE

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